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| **USNA Class of 1981** replies@smtp.usna.comHide |

**SUBJ: Bob Ravener**

All,

Greetings.  Well the Ground Hog saw his shadow so apparently the calendar will determine winter. Frankly it's been quite mild in the mid-Atlantic states but the skies have been VERY gray.  The Mids are having a proper Dark Ages sans cold.  I want to share some great news about our classmate Bob Ravener.  Bob is running for the Alumni Association Board of Trustees in the Central Region.  Only the Central Region members can vote for Bob, however, I am asking you all in that region to do two things:  1.  Vote for Bob (duh!) 2. Contact anyone you know from your state, not just our classmates, but ANY grad in your area and let them know that Bob is the best candidate.  We need this to go nationwide so that the network can contact the Central region classmates, friends, teammates, and company mates and push for Bob.  I think if we do this, we can get Bob over the finish line first!   So the challenge is laid down, let your networks know that Bob is running and ask them to either vote for Bob if they can AND to contact anyone they know in that region.  Let's get 81 represented in that critical central region.  For those of you in that region, you will be hearing from Bob soon but here is his message:

***Bob Ravener USNA Alumni Association Central Region Candidate***

***Bob Ravener ’81 credits the Naval Academy and the Navy for giving him a start in life and has been giving back to USNA and the military ever since. He has spent much of his career helping veterans successfully transition to the civilian workforce.***

***One of many successes was starting military hiring initiatives at three companies which to date, have employed more than 150,000 veterans into the workforce. Each of those companies was awarded the DoD Freedom Award, its top civilian recognition.***  
***He was also responsible for creating and leading Tennessee’s highly successful ‘Paychecks for Patriots’ initiative, an effort to reduce unemployment among veterans, while also serving as the State Workforce Development Board Chair. Bob was a member of the President’s National Hire Veterans Committee and the Secretary of Labor’s Advisory Committee for Veterans Employment,***

***Training and Employer Outreach, where he helped lead the transition initiatives of veterans across the nation.***

***Prior to entering the private sector, Bob served in the Navy as a Strategic Weapons Submarine Officer aboard DANIEL WEBSTER. He completed his active-duty service at USNA as the Academic Liaison Officer, instructor, coach, and recruiter. He has been a Blue & Gold Officer, while serving on congressional service academy selection boards for most of the last 25 years. Bob was a battalion commander and varsity baseball player at USNA and is a past president of his class. He continues to serve as a Trustee on the Naval Academy Athletic Foundation for Athletic Scholarships & Programs while being an active class rep.***

***Currently the CEO of his own company in Franklin, Tennessee, Bob retired from Dollar General as the chief people officer in 2019 and was instrumental in creating 65,000 new jobs, becoming the number one ranked company world-wide in training, and promoting thousands from within. Prior to joining Dollar General, he served in various roles of increasing responsibility with other Fortune 200 companies including Starbucks, Home Depot, and PepsiCo. He is married with three grown children and four grandchildren.***

***“I believe my many years of service at the national, state, and local levels along with extensive experiences across the military and civilian communities give me great depth and breadth to represent the alumni of the Naval Academy and continue to support USNA’s mission of the developing our leaders of tomorrow. I would appreciate your support and vote.”***

***Key priorities to support USNA and serve the Alumni community:***

* + ***-  Communicate with and inform the alumni about key USNA initiatives***
  + ***-  Be a conduit and partner with Alumni Chapters to support their efforts***
  + ***-  Gain input and insights on alumni challenges to communicate up the chain***
  + ***-  Use my experiences to assist alumni transition from military to civilian employment***

Cheers,

Kevin

'81 Second to NONE!!